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# CANADA CLOSE-UP



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## People of the plains

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# CANADA CLOSE-UP

## CANADA CLOSE-UP ITEMS

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Je suis canadien, ISBN 0-07-077595-8

People of the Plains, ISBN 0-07-077596-6

Audio-Visual Kit, ISBN 0-07-077597-4

Teacher's Resource Book, ISBN 0-07-077598-2

# people of the plains

# SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES PROGRAM



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Canada Close-Up: Coast to Coast  
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The World of People: The Global Village  
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The World of People: The Western Hemisphere

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# people of the plains

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## CANADA CLOSE-UP: PEOPLE OF THE PLAINS

### Social and Environmental Studies Program

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# From Dinosaurs to Derricks

## The Prairies

(A Play in Two Acts)

### Characters in the Play

MOTHER	GRANDPA
AUNT PAULA	NARRATOR
SANDRA	JAKE RIDOUT
MIKE	

### Act One, Scene One

Narrator: The Goloskys are travelling by car to visit their grandfather. Regina is a long way from their home. It has been a long drive and the children are tired and cranky.

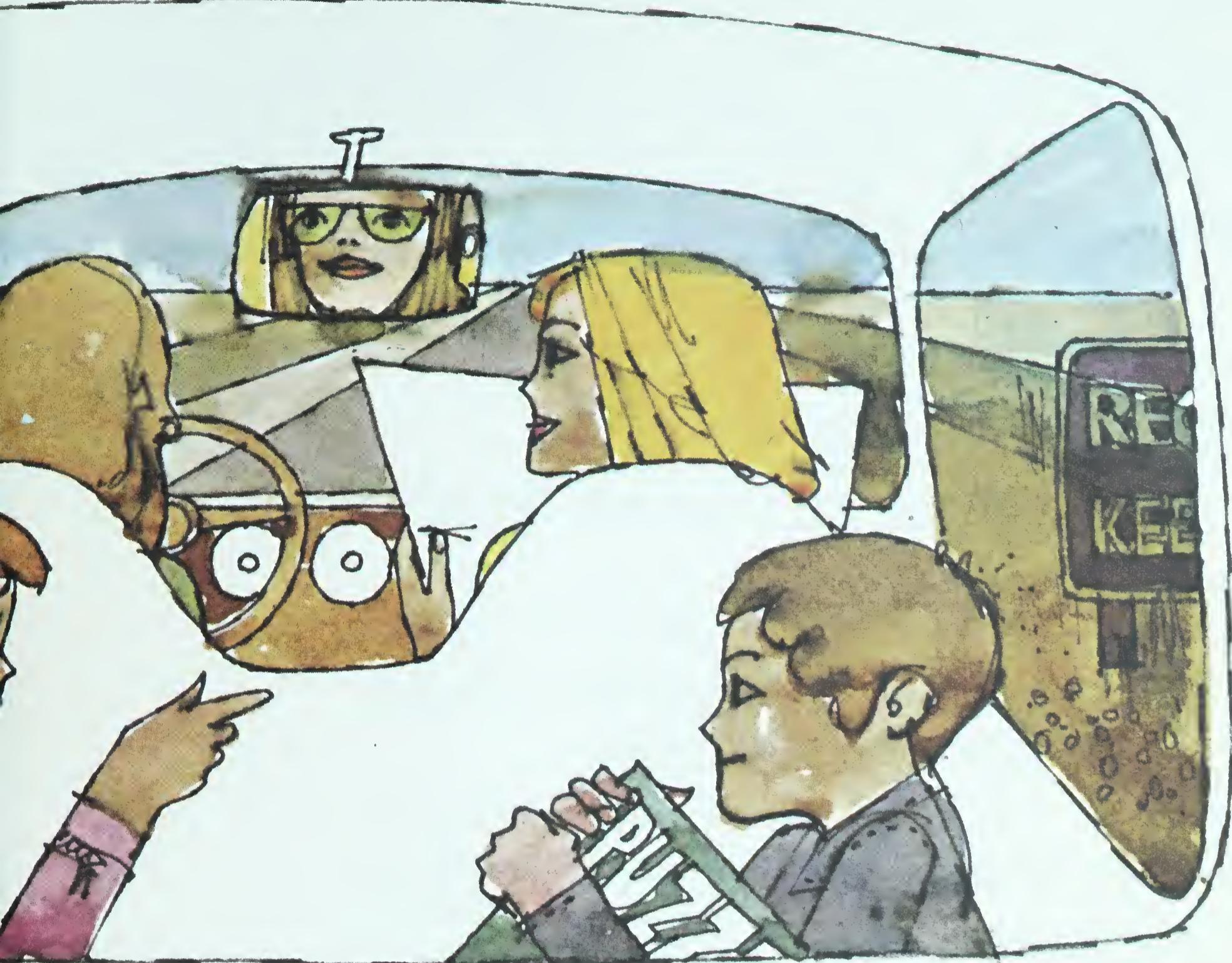
Mike: Come on! Give me my puzzle.

Sandra: You're not even using it. And I've already started it.

Mike: Mom! Sandra won't give me my puzzle.

Mother: Come on, you two. Please try to behave. We're all tired, you know.



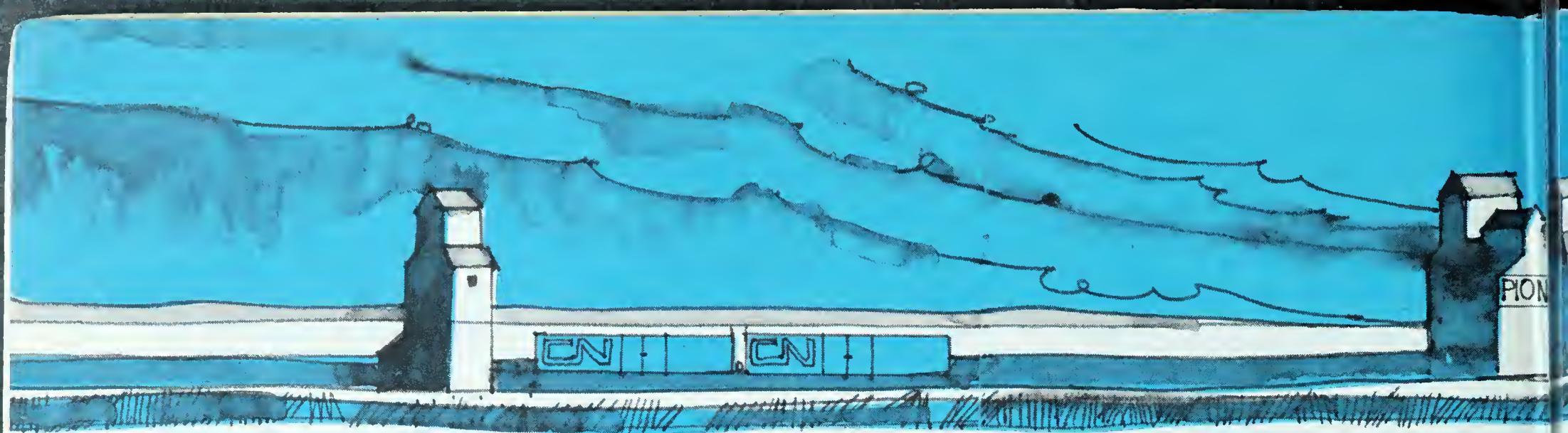


Mike: When are we going to get there? When will we see Grandpa? How much farther is it?

Sandra: We've been in this car for so long! Maybe we won't be able to walk by the time we get there!

Aunt Paula: (taking out a map) Well, let's see how far we have come and how far we still have to go.

Using a string and a map of Canada, measure the distance from your home to Regina. Tell what Aunt Paula will say to answer Mike's question.



## Act One, Scene Two

Sandra: This isn't like where we live, is it? Just miles and miles of flat land. It seems to go on for ever.

Mike: The land even touches the sky.

Sandra: Oh, it does not! The land doesn't touch the sky. It only looks that way.

Sandra: (sitting on the edge of her seat) Mom. Why is the land so flat here? At home the land is . . .

Use your own words to tell what the land is like where you live. Is it all flat? Are there hills? Mountains? Lakes? Streams?

Mother: Well, I was told that there was a glacier that covered this area thousands of years ago. The ice was thicker than any we have ever seen. It was more than three kilometres thick!





Children (both at once) Three kilometres!

Sandra: How did the ice get that thick?

Mother: I really don't know. But that ice was so heavy that, as it moved, it scraped away the top of the land. After many years the ice melted and drained away. There was also a huge sea that once covered this area. That was before the ice came. It also helped to make the land flat.

Sandra: Do you know what Dad said before we left? He said there were dinosaurs here once. Is that true? I wonder what killed them?

Mike: (suddenly becoming interested) Dinosaurs? Where? Out there? (pointing out the window)

Aunt Paula: (laughing) No. Not now, Michael. But there may have been some there many years ago. Now you can only see them in museums. And I believe there are some in a park in Calgary. Some models, that is.





## Act One, Scene Three

Mother: This land is very much like Grandpa's. We must be almost there. Grandpa is very lucky to have a farm in this part of the Prairies. Here the land is flat and the soil is good. This makes it easier for him to grow his crops. I think it's better land than ours.

Aunt Paula: (turning to the children) Did you know that this part of the Prairies is very important to Canada and to the rest of the world? Do you know why?

Mike: I do!

Tell what you think Mike said.

Sandra: Is our home important to Canada too?

Mother: Yes.

Use your own words to tell why your community is important to Canada.

Mike: Can we pick some of Grandpa's wheat and make our own bread when we get there?  
Can we, Mom?

Sandra: That's a great idea!

Mother: I wish it were that simple. I'm afraid we will have to buy the flour from the store. Grandpa doesn't make his own. But I know he has a special recipe for making bread. Maybe we can help him make some.

# FARM SUPPLIES



## Act Two, Scene One

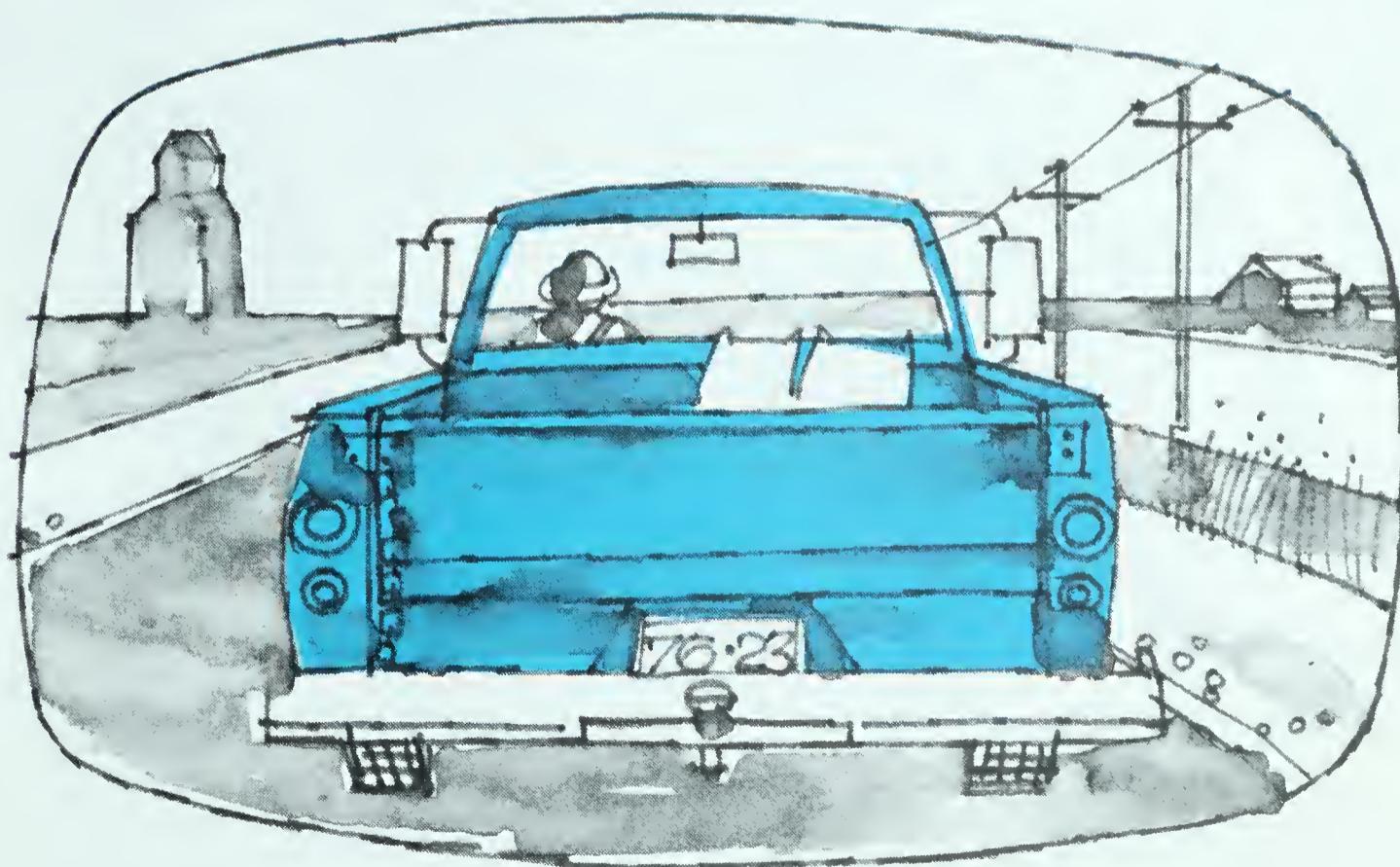
Mike: (jumping up and down) We're almost there!

Mother: (looking at a small piece of paper) This is where he said to meet him. Let's see. It must be at those lights.

Sandra: Yes. There he is. There's Grandpa!

Narrator: Yes, it was Grandpa all right. And he was just as excited to see them.

The family met Grandpa in Regina and followed him in his truck to his farm. Tell what the narrator will say about the trip to Grandpa's farm.







## Act Two, Scene Two

Narrator: Everyone was happy and excited to be on the farm. Early in the morning they would get up and eat breakfast. Then the children would go with their grandfather to help with the chores. One day, when they were walking through the fields . . .

Grandpa: (with his arms around the children as they walk) You two really have been a big help this week. It makes the chores seem easier just having you with me. What chores do you do at home?

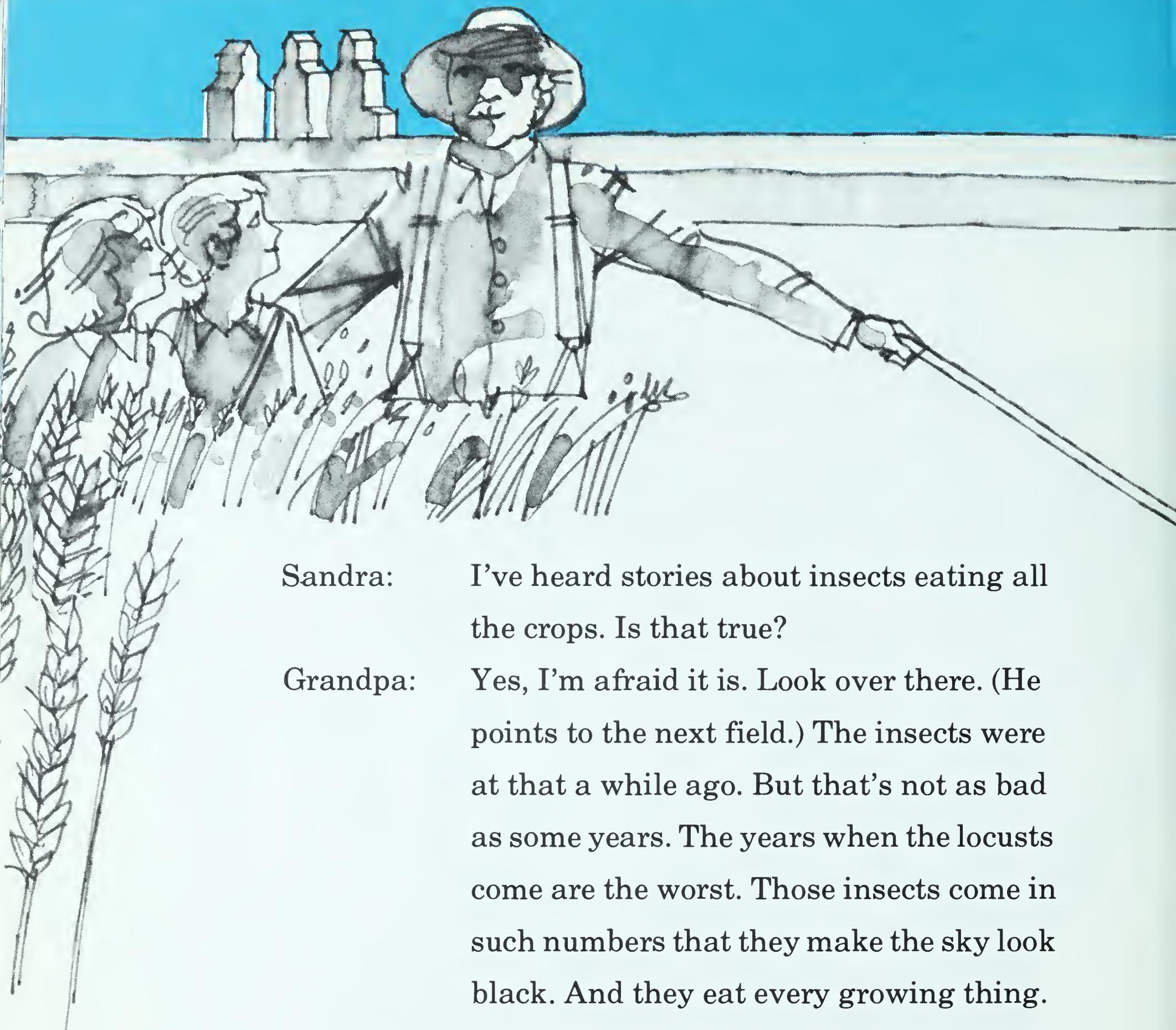
Mike: I . . .

Sandra: And I . . .

Use your own words to answer Grandpa's question for Mike and Sandra.

Mike: Grandpa, is it hard to grow wheat?

Grandpa: Not really. But there are years when there are problems. Some years it doesn't rain for a long time and the crops die. Then, other years there are the insects.



Sandra: I've heard stories about insects eating all the crops. Is that true?

Grandpa: Yes, I'm afraid it is. Look over there. (He points to the next field.) The insects were at that a while ago. But that's not as bad as some years. The years when the locusts come are the worst. Those insects come in such numbers that they make the sky look black. And they eat every growing thing.

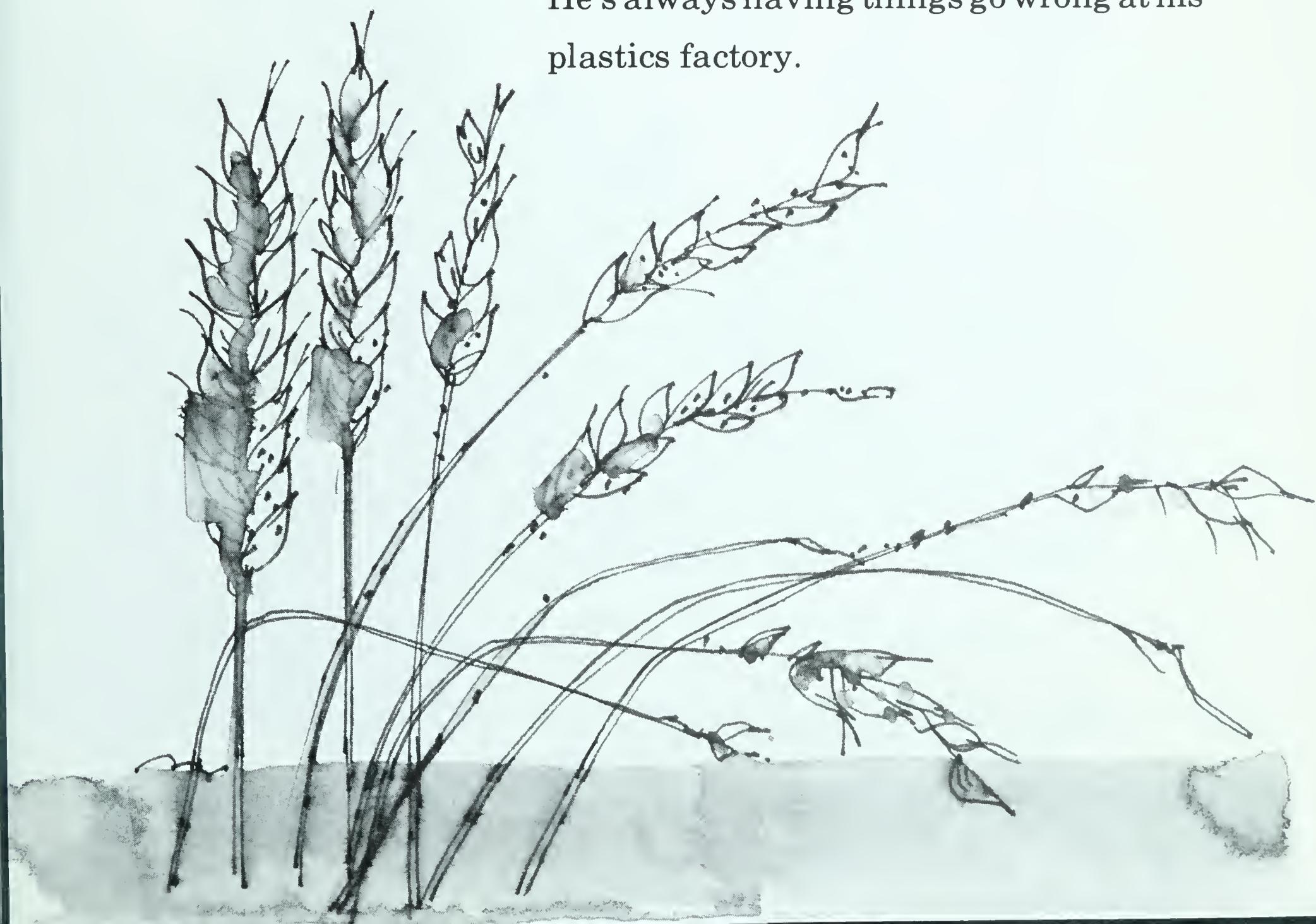
Sandra: What can you do?

Grandpa: Well, you can't do much about problems like that. And it's very upsetting to work so hard and then have everything destroyed. Then there are the years when the crops grow too well and we have too much grain. We can't sell it all. So the surplus grain just sits in the grain elevators. Sometimes you just can't win!

Mike: Why don't you come and live with us?  
Then you wouldn't have to worry about  
these things. And you could help Mom and  
Dad.

Sandra: Or Aunt Paula with her business.

Grandpa: Oh no. It's not that bad. Prairie farmers  
always have hope that next year will be  
better. And we like working with nature.  
And having the room to spread out and  
not be crowded by other people, other  
farms, traffic jams. You talk to people in  
the cities. They have their problems too.  
Wait till you hear Jake's stories tonight.  
He's always having things go wrong at his  
plastics factory.



## Act Two, Scene Three

Narrator: Jake Ridout arrived soon after dinner that night. He hardly had time to take off his jacket before the children were asking him questions.

Mike: Jake, tell us about your problems.

Jake: (looking surprised)  
What problems are these?

Mike: The ones at your factory.

Sandra: How do you make plastics? Do you make toys?

Jake: Well, plastics are made from oil.

Sandra: Oil? You mean our toys are made out of oil?

Jake: Yes. And not just your toys, but some of your medicines, too.

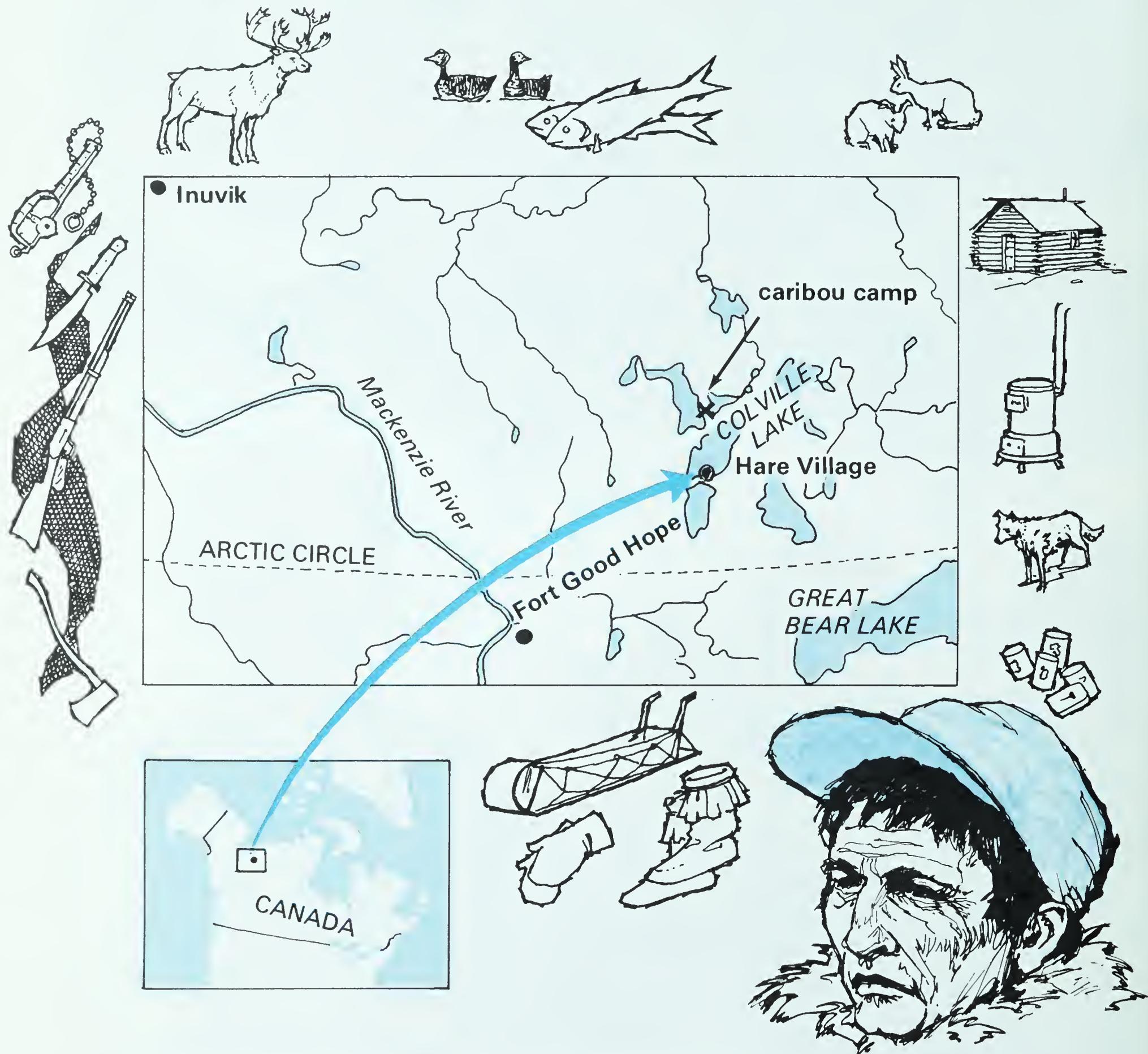
Mike: What is a derrick?





What other questions do you think the children will ask Jake? Find out the answers to them. Write the rest of Scene Three.

# The End-of-the-Earth People Colville Lake



North of the Arctic Circle, a small log-cabin village has grown up beside a lake. You cannot travel to this village by road. There are no water taps, no telephones, no electricity, and no mailmen.



The Hare village.



This village is home for about 70 Hare Indians.

Many years ago, this tribe of Indians caught the Arctic hare for food. Because they depended on this small animal for food and clothing, they were given the name Hare Indians. During some winters there were not enough Arctic hares to feed all the Indians. Many of them died of starvation.



This photograph shows the fastest way to get to the village. What other ways can you think of to get there?

To the villagers, the arrival of the airplane might mean mail from Fort Good Hope, supplies for the trading post, the older children home for vacation from the live-in school at Inuvik, or visitors to chat with.

## For Good Map Detectives

Look at the map on page 20.

1. Beside what lake is the village located?
2. Find Fort Good Hope. The closest post office is there.
3. Find Inuvik, where the older children go to school.
4. Locate on the map the place where the photographs on page 21 were taken.

All the homes are built of logs. The logs are cut down in the bush. The dogs haul the logs to the building site.

Look at the corner of the house to see how the logs are put together.



The homes have no garages, basements, or lockers to store things. Much of the equipment used by the villagers must be kept outside in all kinds of weather.

The children help to keep a well-stocked wood pile. If the villagers run short of fuel, they have no way to heat their homes or cook their food.



In villages which do not have stores or plazas, there is usually a trading post. The man who runs the trading post sells canned goods, stoves, gas, and other things which the villagers cannot make. At a trading post, money is not always used to buy things. An Indian trapper might trade a fur pelt for some gas or some canned goods.



Here is a picture of the inside of a home in the Hare village.

Which things do you think the Indians did not make? Where would they get these things?





## Think About Your Home

1. Draw a picture of the outside of your home. Discover what building material was used to build your home. Why was it used?
2. Show the inside of your home. Use a box for each room. Build furniture out of plasticine, smaller boxes, cardboard, or construction paper.



There is always work to be done. But no matter how busy they are, the villagers find time to go to church. The men sit together. The women and children sit on the other side of the church.

The villagers built their own church with the help of the priest. It is an important part of their lives. On Sundays and holy days, they attend mass.



Mass is not always held in the church. When the people move to fish camp in late summer, the priest goes to them. On Sundays, the work is done quickly so they will be ready for mass when the priest gets there.

## Churches in Your Community

How many churches are there in your community?

Tell your classmates something interesting about your church.

Be ready to listen to them tell about their church too.

The life and work of the Hare Indians changes with the seasons.

## Autumn

In September, the school-age children leave the Hare village. They go to Inuvik, where they attend a live-in school. Their leaving causes great sadness. They will be away for many months, maybe even a year or two.





These children are too young to go away to school. They stay at home and help their parents get ready for the long, cold winter.

The men repair the sleds, dog harnesses, fishnets, and traps. They make snowshoes and hunt ducks to feed their families.

The women sew moccasins, mitts, and mukluks. They make bannock and gather other supplies to be stored for the winter.

# Winter

When trapping season opens on November 1, the men set their traps. Their young sons learn to trap by helping them.



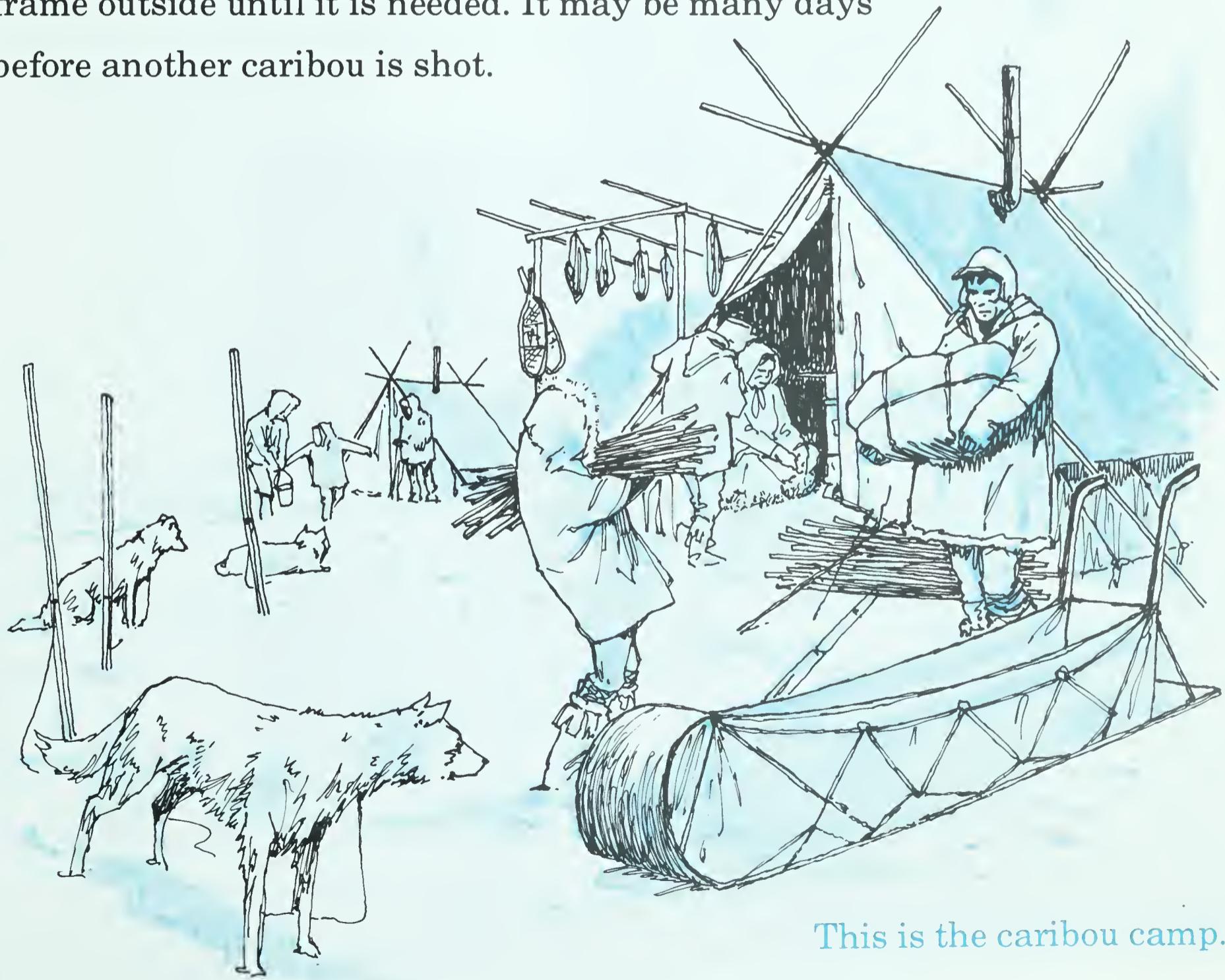
This man is one of the best trappers at Colville Lake. What is he doing with his axe?



In this picture, he is covering the trap with evergreen boughs. Perhaps he will catch an Arctic hare to feed his family. If a fox is trapped, its skin could be traded for supplies at the trading post.

The men set many traps on their trap lines. They check them at least twice a week. They may be away from home for many days at a time. Sometimes, their families go along to help.

The men are always looking for the trail of the caribou herd. Trailing the herd may again take them away from home for a week or two. Sometimes the families move to the caribou camp. There they are closer to the herd, which is their basic food during the winter. If a caribou or moose is shot, the meat is shared among all the families in the camp. The meat is kept frozen on a high frame outside until it is needed. It may be many days before another caribou is shot.



This is the caribou camp.

Snares are set to catch Arctic hare. When the caribou meat is gone, the people eat hare. If caribou and hare are scarce, they eat fish.



A hole is chopped in the ice. The net is set under the ice.



This is a good catch!

The fish are also used to feed the huskies. One husky can eat as much as two kilograms of fish a day. Often, though, it must be content with much less.



The dogs must be chained apart or they will fight. They are fierce and strong.



The men depend on huskies to take them safely to their trap lines. Trailing the caribou can also be dangerous. Often a good lead dog can save its master from harm.

During the long, cold winter months, the Hare Indians look forward to Christmas. The holiday means returning to the village for Christmas mass, dancing, singing, playing cards, and visiting with friends. To the people who did not go to camp, it means fathers and friends home for the holidays. After New Year's, the fun is forgotten. It is time to return to camp.

Soon it is Easter. Once again they return to the village. Easter is another time to relax and visit with friends. Now the long, cold winter is almost over. After a few more weeks at the caribou camp, the families move back to the village.

## Spring

When the muskrat season opens on May 1, it is time for the spring hunt. Traps are set. The trapper checks his trap line at least twice a week. It may be many miles long and include many traps.

By the end of June, the spring hunt is over.

The trapper skins the muskrat. He stretches the skin over the frame to dry. The muskrat pelt can be used to get supplies at the trading post.



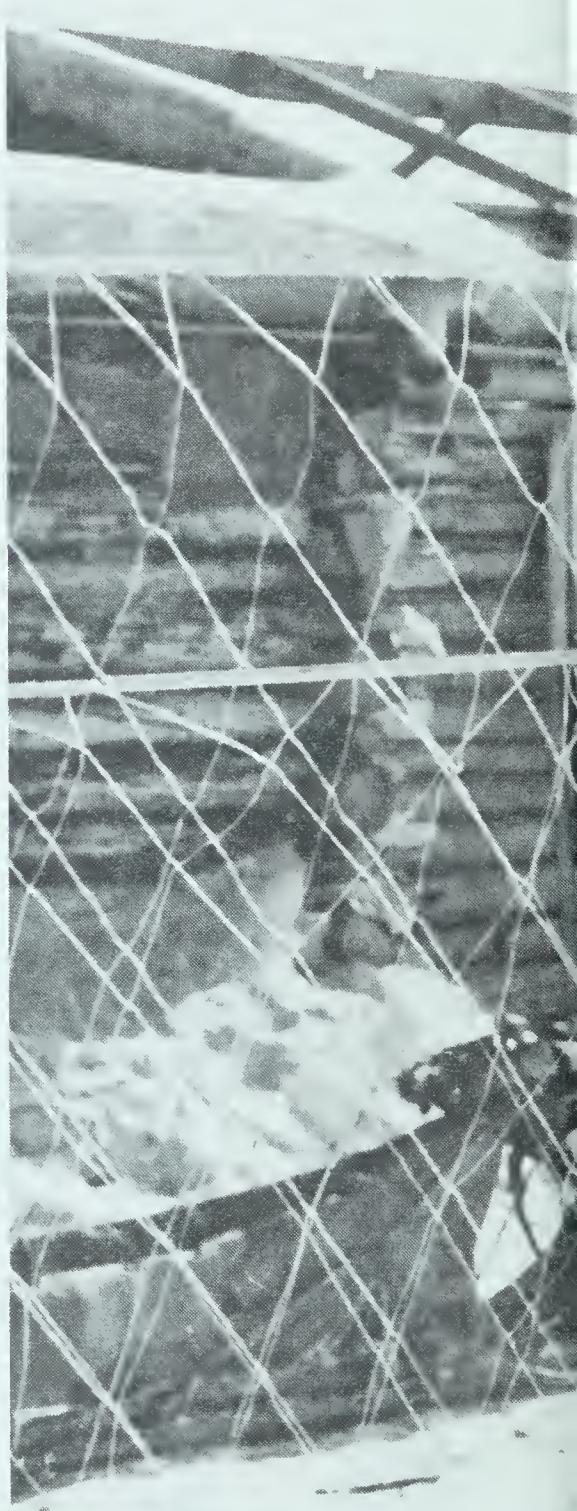
# Summer

In July, the villagers enjoy the warm summer weather and long hours of daylight. The dark, cold days of winter are almost forgotten. Now lighter clothing can be worn. Sometimes the temperature might reach 24°C to 29°C.

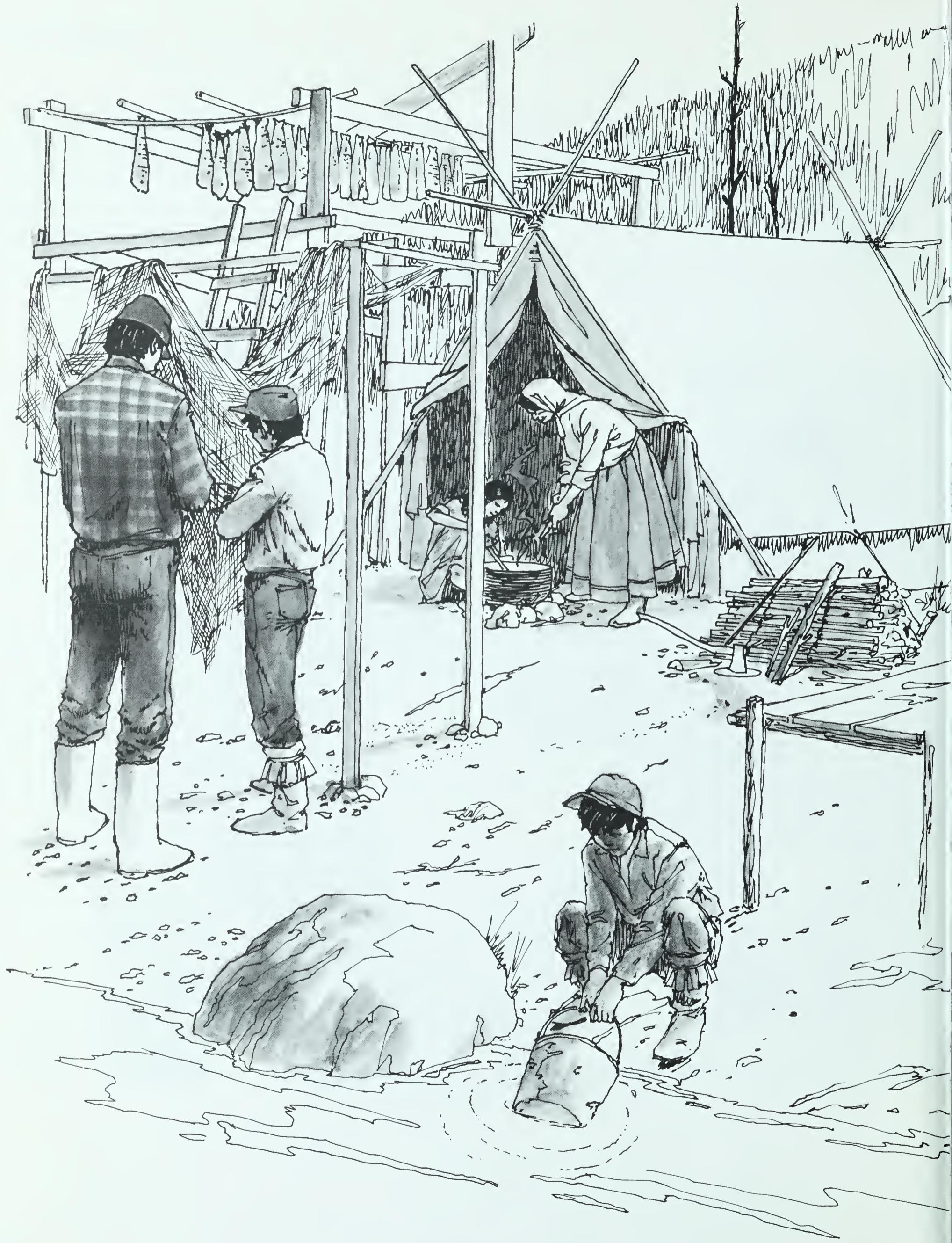
In August, the canoe is loaded with supplies. It is time for the families to leave for fish camp.

The men find a narrow, shallow spot in the river. Camp is set up on the nearby bank. Firewood is gathered.

This man is getting ready for fish camp. He is mending the net. His canoe and kicker may need repairs too. They must be made safe for the trip to fish camp.







The young boys help their father to set the nets in the water. They check the nets every morning and evening. The catch is taken back to the tent.

The mother cooks some of the fish for daily food and feeds some to the dogs. The rest is smoked, dried, and saved for the winter. She makes bannock, dries roe, and gathers firewood and berries. Her spare time is spent sewing moccasins, mitts, and mukluks. The young girls help her.

## A Moveable Home

Why would a tent be a good second home for the Hare Indians? Do you have another home? When do you use it? Draw a picture of your other home. How is it different from the tent home? How is it the same?



## Not All Work

The villagers like to visit friends for a game of cards or just to sit and chat. Parties, dancing, and singing are enjoyed by all.



The old people are highly respected. Here, Old Albert is teaching the children a chant.

The children imitate their parents. Even the youngest go to the dances. The girls and boys know many card games. They often sing while playing or helping their parents.



The boys make a game of getting the water supply for their home. Often it turns into a race. With the job done, it is time for some more fun. The frozen lake is a perfect spot for a dogsled race.

The children play roughly and are not easily hurt. They are taught to be brave about pain. Even if they are badly hurt, no one will help them until they stop crying. Their parents are not strict. If a child misbehaves, his parents think he is just being foolish and they shame him by laughing at him.

# The Way of Life

Hunting, trapping, and fishing provide food and clothes for the Hare Indians. Why don't they move into a larger town? There they could shop at a store to buy the things they need.

Some of the Indians tried living in a town, but soon they became unhappy. They didn't have enough money to buy good food. They felt useless and bored. There was no work for them because hunting, trapping, and fishing close to the town was poor. The animals were frightened by the people and moved farther into the bush.

To survive, the Hare Indians decided they had to follow the animals. This meant moving back to the land, far from the town. When those who were living at Fort Good Hope heard

that a church had been built at Colville Lake, they decided to make their home there, too.

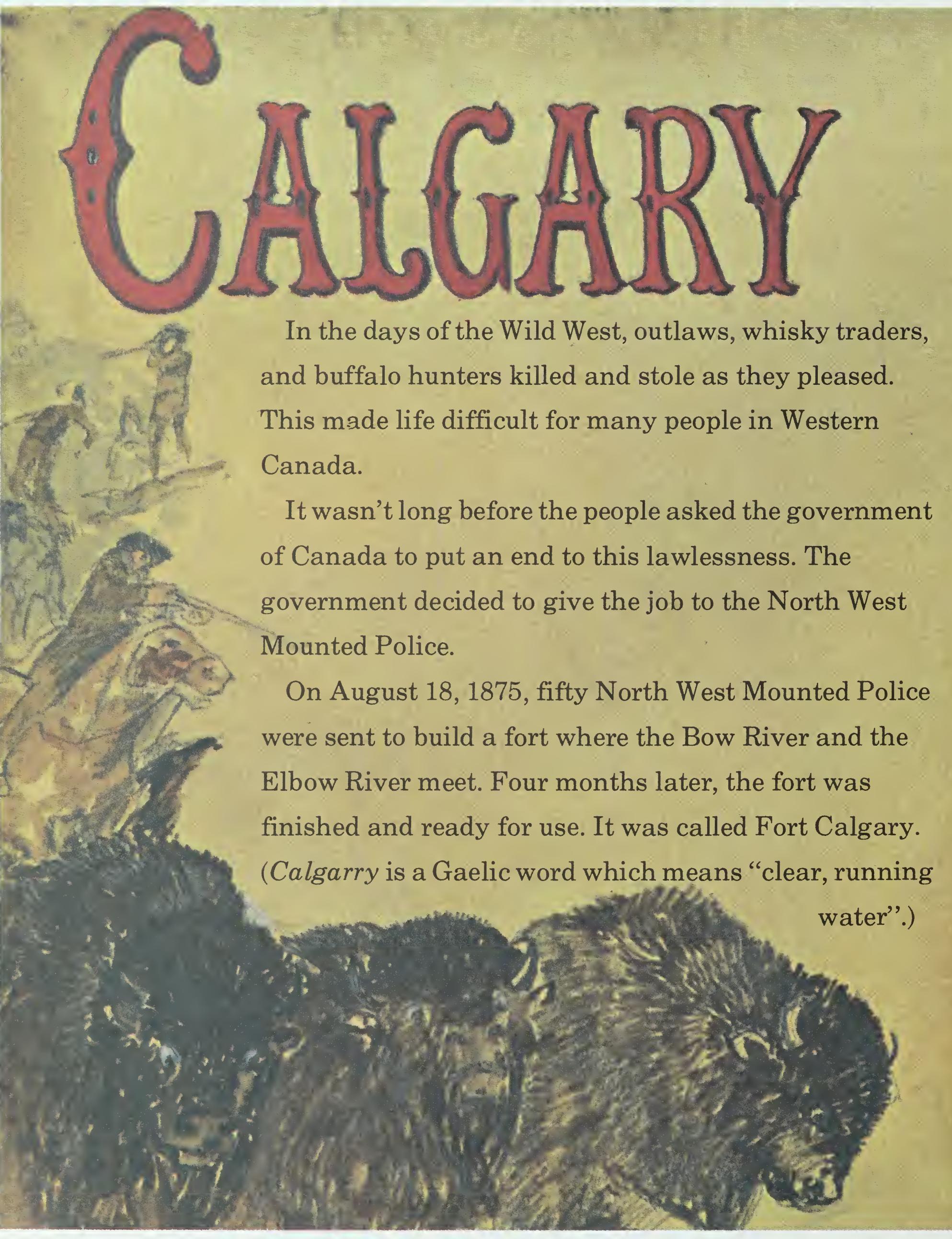
The villagers seldom talk about the future or plan for it. They live from hunt to hunt. The important thing is survival. For survival, they depend upon the land and its animals. They don't misuse the animals that feed and clothe them, but take only as much as they need.

The Indians of Colville Lake often complain that life is difficult. However, their way of life, hard as it may be, is what they want.

# Just Suppose

Pretend you live in the community at Colville Lake. (Look at the photos and choose which person you would like to be.) An anthropologist has come to your village. He is interested in learning about your way of life. What would you tell him? What would you show him? Write your story for his report.

# CALGARY

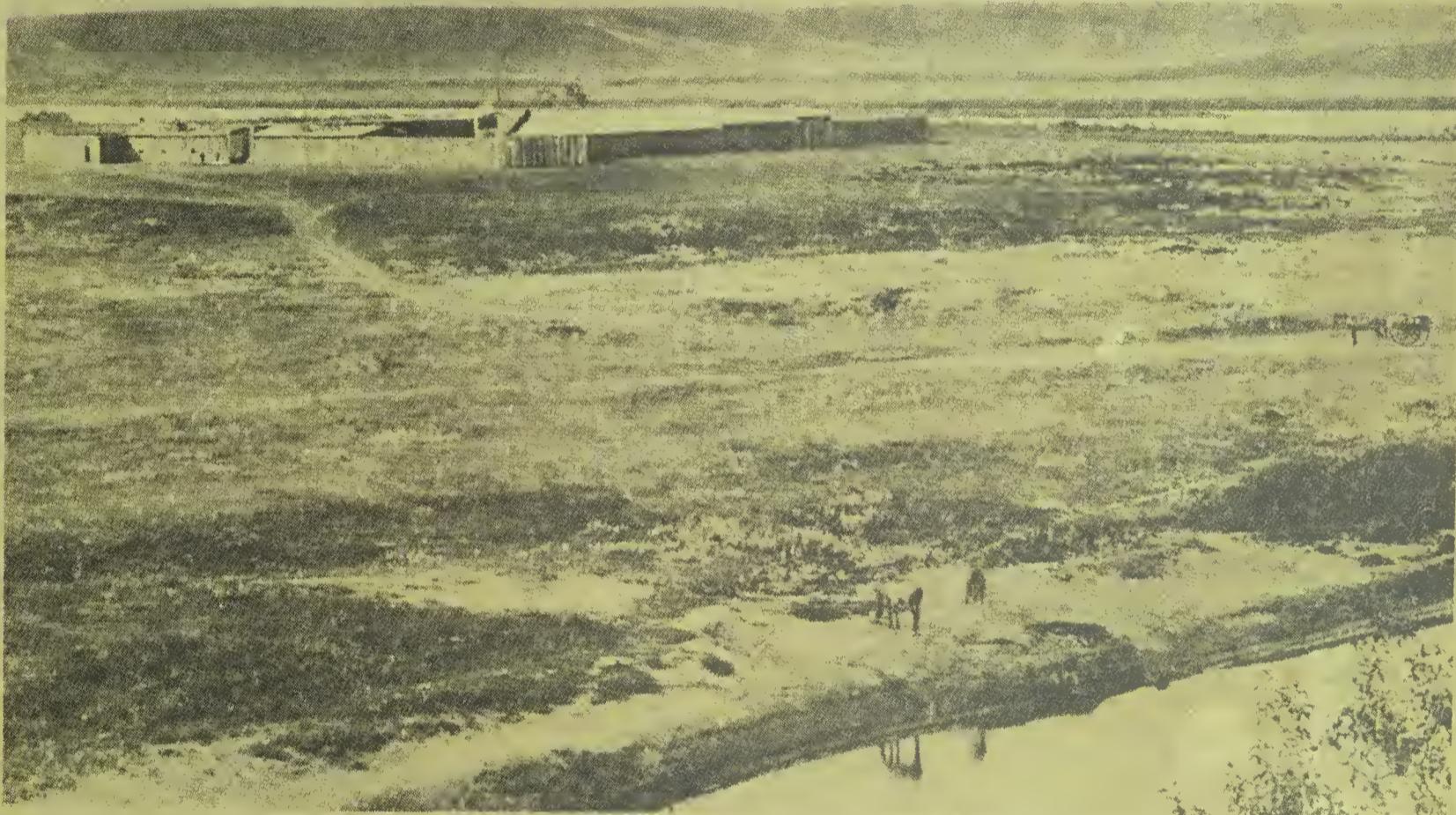


In the days of the Wild West, outlaws, whisky traders, and buffalo hunters killed and stole as they pleased. This made life difficult for many people in Western Canada.

It wasn't long before the people asked the government of Canada to put an end to this lawlessness. The government decided to give the job to the North West Mounted Police.

On August 18, 1875, fifty North West Mounted Police were sent to build a fort where the Bow River and the Elbow River meet. Four months later, the fort was finished and ready for use. It was called Fort Calgary. (*Calgarry* is a Gaelic word which means "clear, running water".)

# CITY on the GROW!



This is Fort Calgary in 1881. How did people travel then?

The North West Mounted Police had the difficult task of keeping law and order in the large, unsettled land around Fort Calgary.

By 1883, the Canadian Pacific Railway had been built westward as far as Calgary. Because of the railway, homesteaders began to arrive. The fertile soil produced lush crops. It was good for growing wheat. Soon flour-milling industries were started. By 1884 there were 500 people living in Calgary.





threshing outfit  
Catherwood Farms, Oct. 1905.

Many people helped at threshing time. Everyone in the family had a job to do. Even neighbours came to help. What is threshing? How is threshing different today?

Farmers soon discovered that the climate, water, and grass were ideal for raising cattle. Large herds of cattle were moved to the Calgary area from the northern United States. Soon a meat-packing industry was started.

## Recipe for Raising Cattle

Start with lots of pure mountain-born water.

Add healthy, green grass.

Keep at temperatures that are never too hot or too cold.

Kill insects and pests on sight.

The promise of free homesteads brought a rush of pioneers to the area. By 1891, 3876 people were living in the town of Calgary. The people of Calgary were very proud of the fact that they had electric lights and a water system. In 1893, Calgary was granted a charter as a city.





Many years ago, this was the  
way cattle were branded. Why  
do ranchers brand their cattle?  
Tell how it is done.

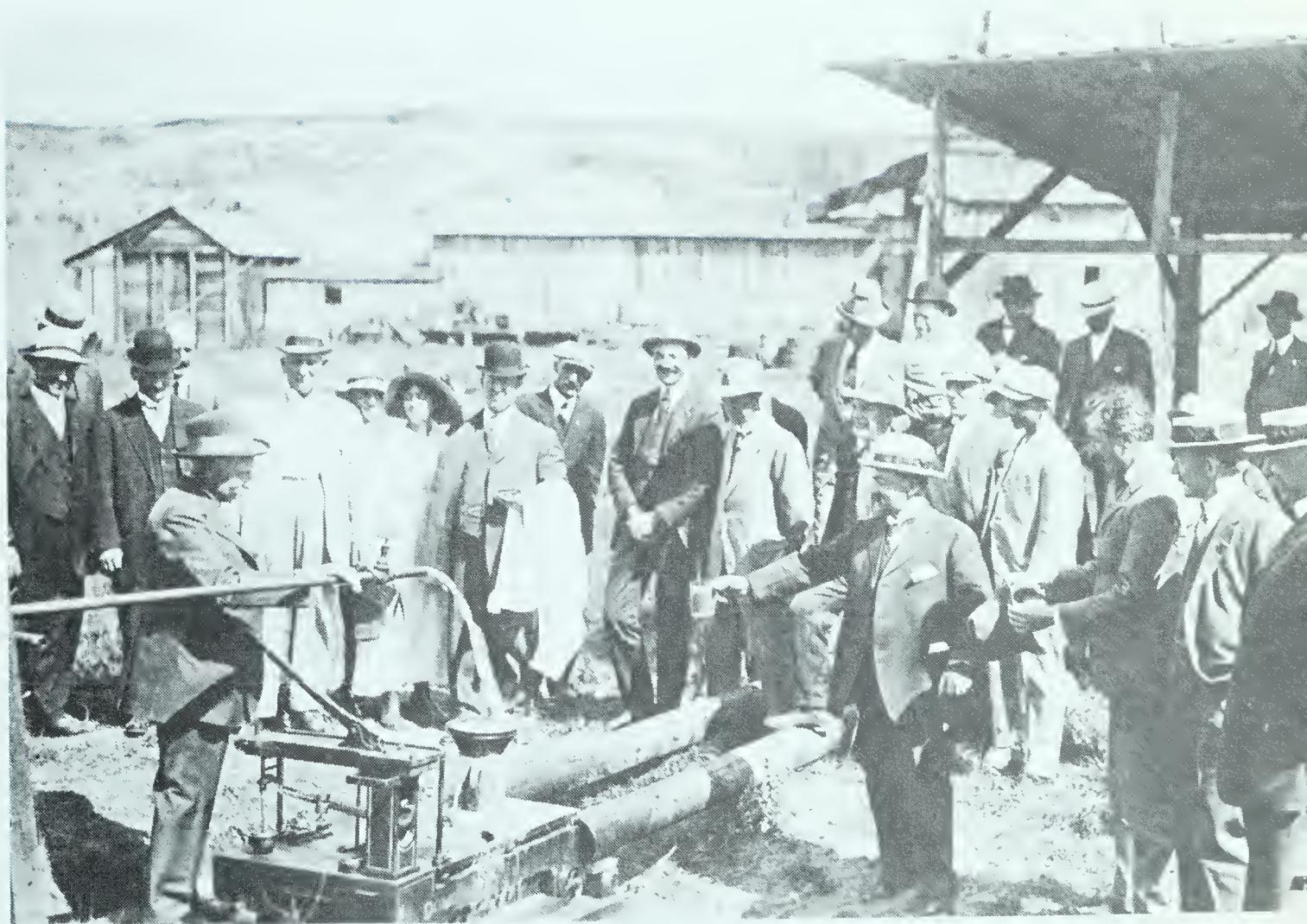
In 1914, oil was discovered at Turner Valley, which is just south of Calgary.

With the discovery of oil, the population of Calgary boomed. People flocked to the area hoping to become rich on what they called “black gold”. Only a few became rich. The others had to find work. Because of the oil, many new businesses were started which provided jobs.





Here are two of the first oil wells at Turner Valley. These are the Dingman Wells.



This photograph was taken on July 28, 1914, at Dingman Wells. Mr. Dingman (left) is showing these people the oil that has been discovered on his land.

The first oil refinery in the Canadian West was built at the Turner Valley oilfields. Oil and natural gas are Canada's largest source of mineral wealth. Much of it is found around Calgary. Today, about 400 companies which are in the oil industry have built their office buildings in Calgary. Some of them use oil to make fertilizer, nylon, rubber, and plastics. Others help to build pipelines.



In this oil refinery the oil is made pure and is changed into different kinds of oil and other products.

## A City “on the Grow”

Ranching, farming, oil, and new industries have made Calgary one of the fastest-growing cities in Canada. Now Calgary looks like this.



Today, the population of Calgary is about 425 000. Calgary certainly is a city “on the grow”.

### Something to Think About

What do you think a city “on the grow” means?

What changes would you see in a city “on the grow”?

Read the next 14 pages. See if you were right.





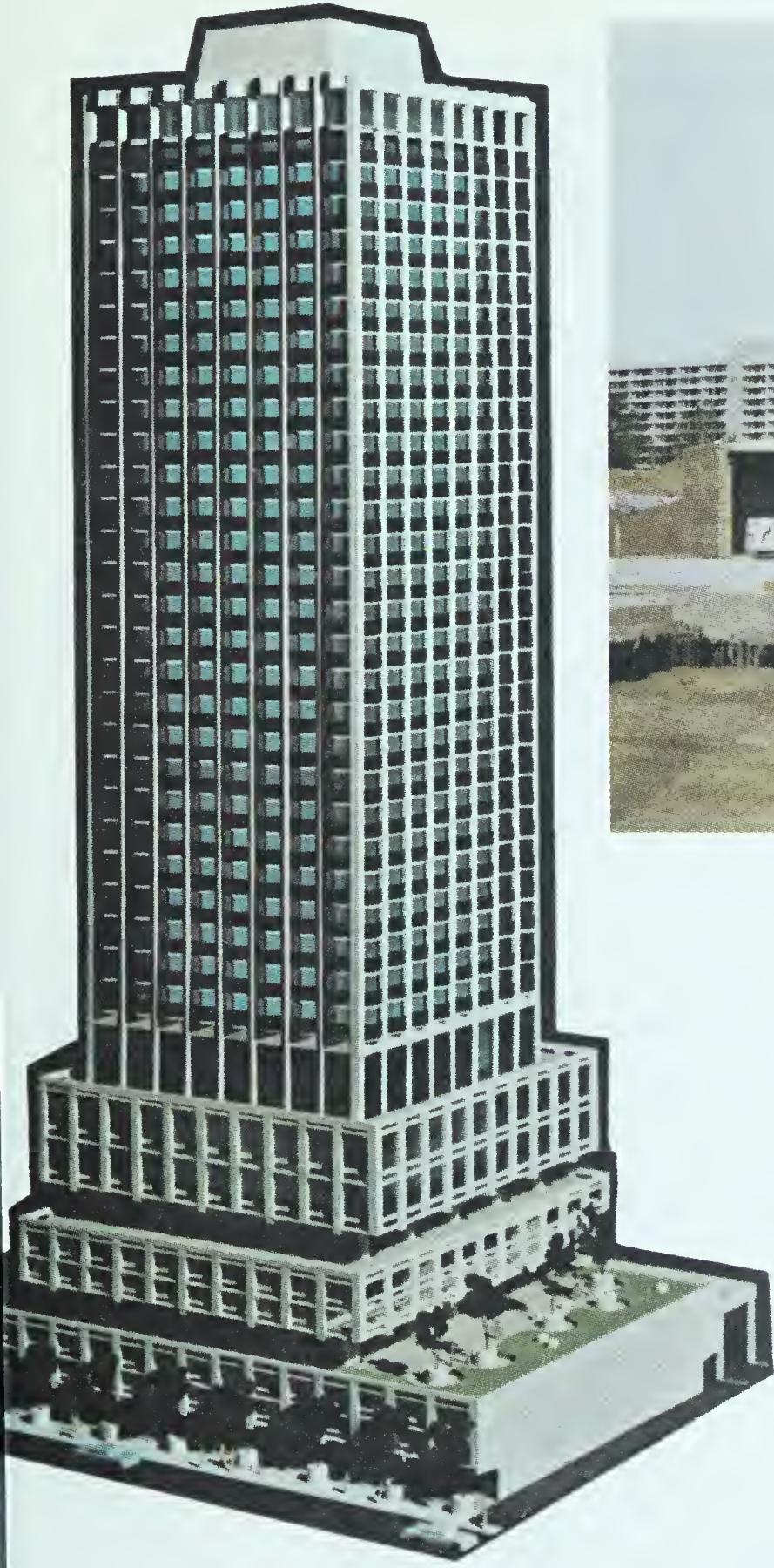
## A city “on the grow” means more people.

These pictures show some of the people who work in Calgary. What are Calgary's most important industries? Which of the industries created each job in the pictures? You may discover that some of the jobs are created by all of the industries.

What industries are shown in these three photographs?

Why are they important to a city “on the grow”? What jobs do these industries create?





**A city “on the grow” means that homes must be built for the people.**

In which type of home do you live? Is a home like yours shown here? Are there other types of homes in your community? Tell what they look like.

A city “on the grow” means that services must be provided for the people.



What kinds of jobs do these people have? What services do they provide for the people of Calgary? Which of these services are provided in your community?



## A city “on the grow” means more transportation.

New ways must be found to move cars, trucks, and buses quickly. Cities “on the grow” must widen old streets and sometimes build new roads and expressways.

Sometimes it is not safe for pedestrians to cross city streets. In Calgary, city planners decided to build walkways for pedestrians over some roads. These walkways are called skywalks.



Find the skywalk in this photograph. Do you think skywalks are a good idea? Why? What do you have in your community to make it safe to cross busy roads?

Many tourists and business people visit Calgary each year. The airport could not handle all the visitors. City planners decided that a new airport should be built. Is there an airport near your community? What other kinds of transportation bring visitors into your community?



**THE TORONTO STAR**  
88    Wed., Jan. 24, 1973

## **Calgary to get \$57.7 million air terminal**

OTTAWA (CP) — A \$57.7 million air terminal for Calgary International Airport was announced yesterday by the ministry of transport.

The terminal to be built on the northeast side of the present airport, will be capable of handling up to 2 million passengers a year, and will be designed so it can be expanded.

# A city “on the grow” means tall buildings.

These photographs show the growth of a building, but they are mixed up. Cut five small pieces of paper. On each paper, print a different number—from 1 to 5. Now, place a number on each photograph to show how you think the building grew.



The Husky Tower is 187 metres high. At the top is a revolving restaurant. From there you can see the city of Calgary.



Why do cities “on the grow” mean tall buildings?



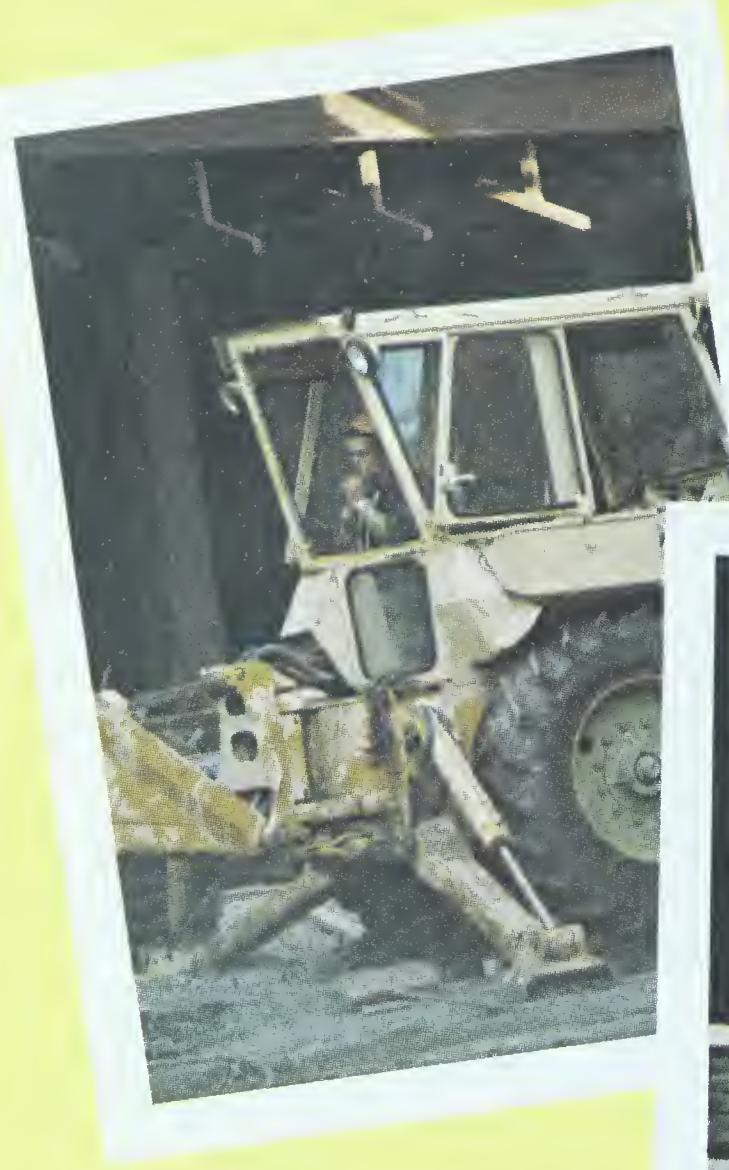
Here are two office buildings. Each building covers the same amount of ground space.

Which building would have the most business offices?

Why?

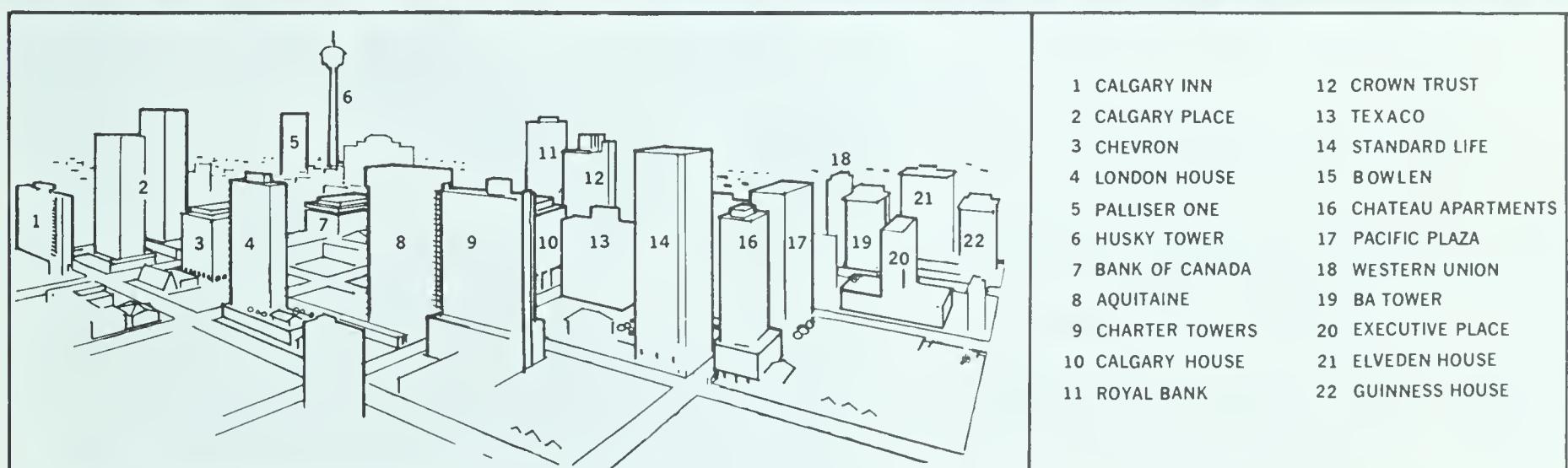
What other kinds of buildings are tall like these?

Why?



These photographs show a new hotel being built in Calgary and some of the people who are helping.

There are plans for many other new buildings. Calgary will look like this when all the planned buildings are finished.



1 CALGARY INN	12 CROWN TRUST
2 CALGARY PLACE	13 TEXACO
3 CHEVRON	14 STANDARD LIFE
4 LONDON HOUSE	15 BOWLEN
5 PALLISER ONE	16 CHATEAU APARTMENTS
6 HUSKY TOWER	17 PACIFIC PLAZA
7 BANK OF CANADA	18 WESTERN UNION
8 AQUITAINNE	19 BA TOWER
9 CHARTER TOWERS	20 EXECUTIVE PLACE
10 CALGARY HOUSE	21 ELVEDEN HOUSE
11 ROYAL BANK	22 GUINNESS HOUSE

## A city “on the grow” means more entertainment.



“The best dad-burned show in the west!” If you like parades, bucking bronchos, Brahma bull riding, horse racing, chuckwagon races, midways, and fireworks, you will love the Calgary Stampede.

Meet Dinny, a 960-centimetre-high model of a Brontosaurus. Dinny and 52 other lifelike models of prehistoric animals can be seen in Calgary's Natural History Park. This is just one of several interesting and beautiful parks to be found in Calgary.



“Please Don’t Feed the Animals.”

The Calgary zoo attracts many visitors. Watching animals is an interesting pastime.



From your study of Calgary, you discovered that a city “on the grow” means industry, which makes jobs for more people. These people need homes, services, transportation, and entertainment. This means even more jobs for more people. In this way, a city continues to grow.

However, not all cities have the same industries. And not all cities grow. Look at your community.

Is your community “on the grow”?

What industries are there?

What jobs do the industries provide?

What services are provided?

Where can you go to enjoy your spare time?

What changes are taking place?

Is a new road or a new airport being built?

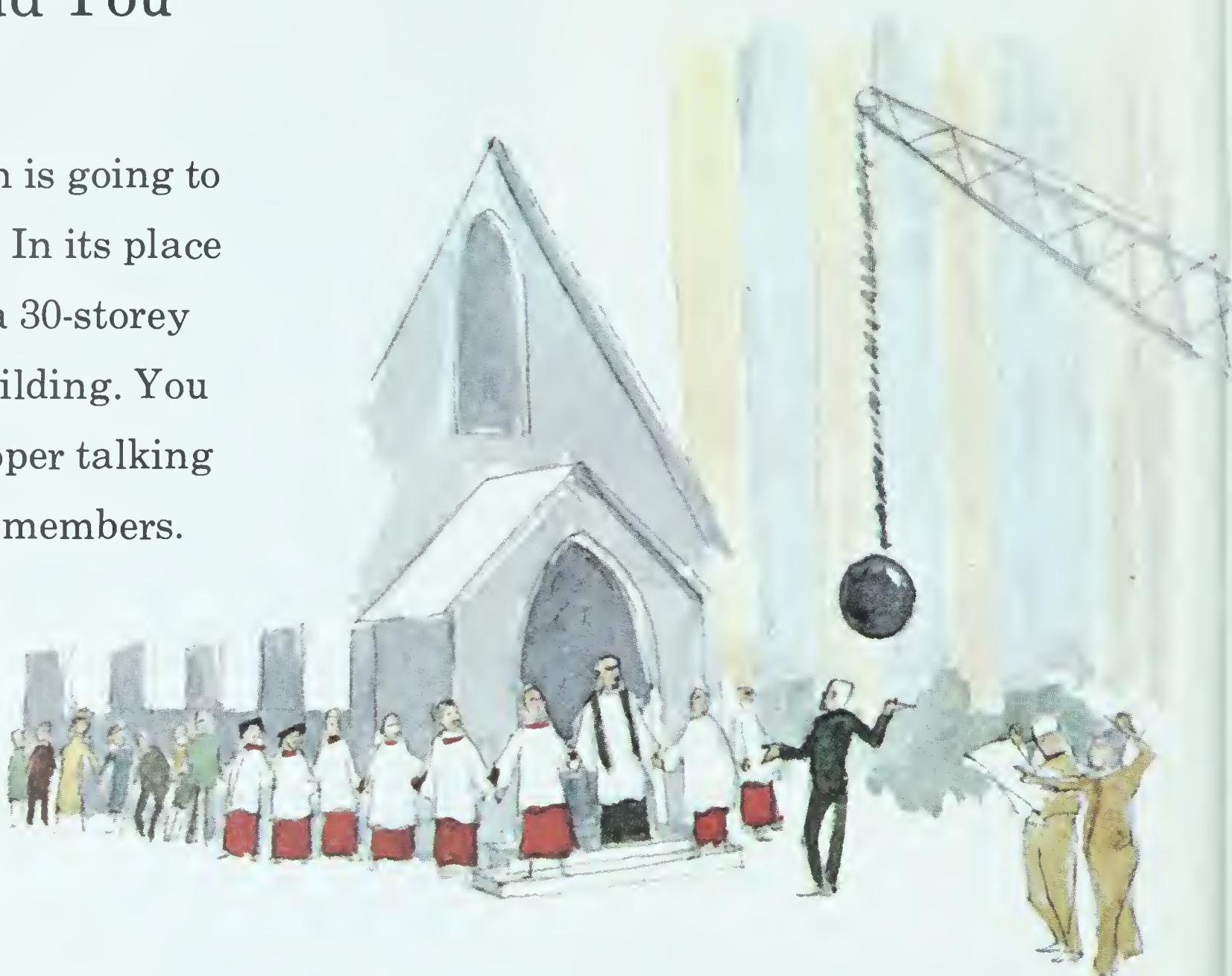
Are there new buildings being built?

Do you know of any changes planned for the future?

Discover the answers to as many of these questions as you can. Share what you learn with your classmates.

# What Would You Say?

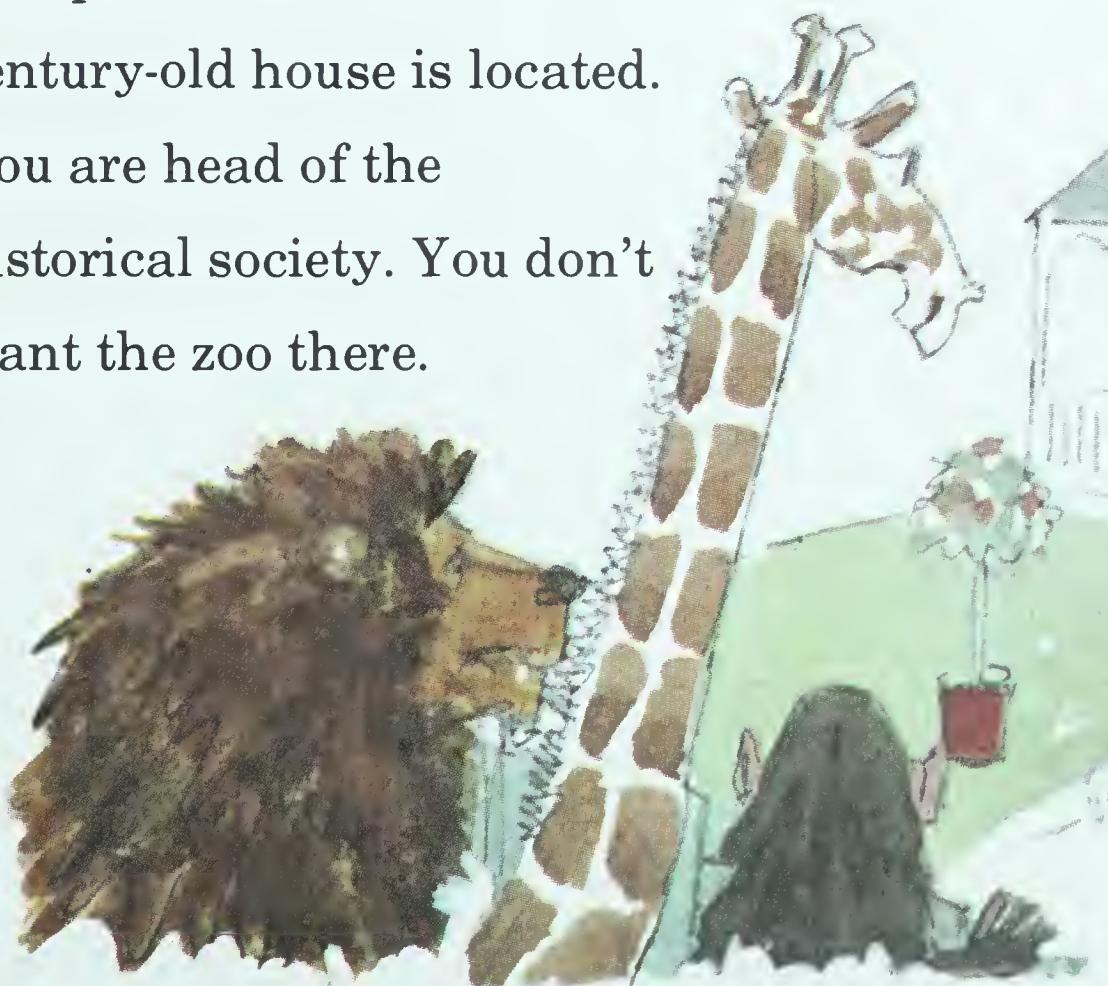
1. An old church is going to be torn down. In its place there will be a 30-storey apartment building. You are the developer talking to the church members.



2. Your parents have just brought home the news that the family home is going to be torn down to make way for an expressway. You are talking to the mayor and giving your reasons for wanting to keep your home.



4. The people in your community want a new zoo. The zoo planners have decided on the best place for it. That is where Mrs. Stone's century-old house is located. You are head of the historical society. You don't want the zoo there.



3. The marshy area near your home is to be filled in. In its place will be a park. This project will cost a great deal of money. You want the park, but you must persuade the people in your community to give money.



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